

*Thursday Report*

March 22, 1991

### **STINGERS HONOURED**

Individual accolades continue to pour in to members of the Concordia varsity teams. During the past season Concordia had 12 of its 13 teams reach league playoffs. Nine Concordia athletes were selected to All-Canadian teams and four of seven coaches received Coach of the Year citations.

Sharon Sandy, a member of the Concordia women's basketball team was named as the Quebec Rookie of the Year as well as being named to the CIAU All-Canadian Rookie squad. Sharon, a Leisure Studies major who played at Champlain CEGEP averaged 10.8 points and 3 rebounds a game.

Goaltender Robert Desjardins capped off an outstanding season in leading the Stingers to a second place finish in the Ontario University Athletics Association, earning him Most Valuable Player award and selection to the All-Canadian team. Desjardins had a sparkling 1.84 goals against average and consistently came up with big saves when the game was on the line.

Basketball star Nick Arvanitis ended an illustrious five year career by being named to the All-Canadian team. The second year graduate student led the Stingers to their third consecutive league title averaging 20 points and 7 rebounds a game, earning him the MVP selection for the OUAA East. Nick was the Most Valuable Player in the 1990 National Championships as he led Concordia to its first-ever basketball title.

Anthony Merlo capped off an outstanding season by winning a gold medal (65 kg) and being named CIAU Wrestler of the Year at the Nationals. At two prestigious invitational tournaments (Mount Allison and St. Francis Xavier), the third year exercise science student took first place and was named Outstanding Wrestler of the latter.

Athletes weren't the only ones honoured. Coaches John Dore and Yves Beaucage were selected as Coach of the Year for the Ontario University Athletic Association in basketball and hockey respectively. As well, Ron Rappel, the department's Head Athletic Therapist, has been named to the medical staff for the 1991 Pan American Games to be held in Cuba this summer. Ron will join a 12 member medical staff that will look after the needs of over 400 athletes competing in the Games. The staff is carefully selected by the Sports Medicine Council of Canada which oversees medical

and therapeutic needs of Canadian carded athletes. Ron, who joined the Concordia staff in 1986, is also the co-ordinator of the Sports Science and Medicine Unit of the Department of Fitness, Recreation & Athletics. Ron graduated from Concordia in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Exercise Science. He served as athletic therapist at Champlain College for two years before returning to his alma mater.

John led the Stingers to their third consecutive league title and a fifth place ranking in the CIAU national polls. He made an impressive debut as a university head coach last year as he led the Stingers to a national championship. John came to Montreal in 1971 and played four years on the Loyola and then Concordia basketball teams. He was voted to the league all-star team three times and represented the school in three national championships. He was selected co-Coach of the Year by his peers, sharing the honour with Bruce Enns of University of British Columbia.

Yves took the Concordia Stingers from rags to riches in his first year as head coach in the Canadian Interuniversity Athletic Union. Yves surprised the so-called experts by leading the Stingers to a 15-7 league record, sixth place in the C.I.A.U. national rankings and a second place finish in the Ontario University Athletic Association East Division. He was one of three finalists for the C.I.A.U. Coach of the Year Award. Beaucage is considered one of the top young coaches on the university hockey scene. He began his coaching career with the McGill hockey programme in 1985 and served three years as a full-time assistant.